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FOR RELEASE

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
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LATE NEWS

Two export exchange rates were established for Brazilian products under the new policy announced by the Brazilian Government on October 9, replacing the previous complex system of part official and part free exchange which in effect provided a separate rate for each commodity. The Bank of Brazil now is authorized to pay premiums over the basic rate of 18.36 cruzeiros to one U. S. dollar, amounting to 5 cruzeiros per dollar on coffee and 10 cruzeiros on all other products. The new rates thus can be considered 23.36 and 28.36, respectively.

However, prices of Brazilian cotton on export markets are not changed by this action. They are still based on near-month New York futures with no recent change in premiums and discounts for grades. The change in exchange rate means that for each dollar's worth of cotton exported from government stocks (include most of Brazil's exportable stocks), 28.36 cruzeiros will be credited to Government account instead of 18.36 cruzeiros, the previous rate.

Losses incurred on exports of cotton purchased by the government under support programs since March 1952 are expected to be covered in this way. Dollars, sterling, and other foreign exchange received for cotton exported are sold at public auction to importers and others on a multiple-rate basis ranging (at an auction on October 18) from 47 cruzeiros per dollar for importers of products in Category I (essentials) to 105 cruzeiros for Category V (luxury items).

FOREIGN CROPS AND MARKETS

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WORLD POTATO PRODUCTION 3 PERCENT ABOVE LAST YEAR

The preliminary estimate of world potato production in the 1953-54 season is 8.3 billions of bushels. This is 3 percent larger than the revised 1952-53 estimate of 8.0 billion bushels and almost as large as the prewar average production of 8.4 billion bushels.

About 5 percent of this production is in North America where the United States and Canada produce 98 percent of the Continental total. The North American crop in 1953 was 7 percent above the previous year. Acreage also was up 7 percent. Yields were high, following the trend in recent years.

One-third of the production is in Western Europe where the 1953 production is very spotted. For the area as a whole the 1953 preliminary estimate of 2.8 billion bushels is 6 percent above the revised 1952 estimate of 2.7 billion bushels and 12 percent above the prewar average production of 2.5 billion bushels.

The brightest spot in Europe in 1953 was Austria which reported the best potato season in many years. Production was up 27 percent, acreage up 5 percent. The greatest drop in production in Europe this year was in Switzerland where acreage was up 1 percent from last year but production down 18 percent from the very favorable season of 1952. France had a favorable season in 1953 as did Western Germany, Norway and Sweden where yields reached high levels. Belgium, Netherlands, Denmark, Finland and Ireland had a less favorable season than the good one in 1952. Yields dropped back to near-normal in these countries.

About one-third of the world production is in the U.S.S.R. where the preliminary estimate of 2.7 billion bushels is down 5 percent from last season and about equal to the prewar average production. While the 1953 estimate is subject to change it reflects known conditions in 1953 which have been adverse to potato production. One-fifth of the production is in other Communist countries of Eastern Europe, excluding Russia, where the current estimate of 1953 production is 14 percent above 1952. This increase does not reflect an especially good 1953 season but rather one improved from the droughty and frosty seasons of 1952.

The 1953-54 production in Southern hemisphere countries is yet unharvested, therefore, the estimates are especially tentative and subject to revision.

This is one of a series of regularly scheduled reports on world agricultural production approved by the Foreign Agricultural Service Committee on Foreign Crop and Livestock Statistics. It is based in part upon U.S. Foreign Service reports.

POTATOES: Acreage, yield and production in specified countries averages 1935-39 and 1945-49, annual 1952-53

Continent and country	Acreage: Average 1935-39	Acreage: Average 1945-49	Acreage: 1952	Acreage: 1953 1/	Yield per acre: Average 1935-39	Yield per acre: Average 1945-49	Yield per acre: 1952	Yield per acre: 1953 1/	Production: Average 1935-39	Production: Average 1945-49	Production: 1952	Production: 1953 1/
	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	Bushels	Bushels	Bushels	Bushels	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres
North America												
Canada	539	373	297	321	124	175	202	198	66,571	65,300	60,071	63,594
El Salvador	1	1	2	2	22	35	50	50	22	41	100	100
Guatemala	9	10	10	10	41	48	48	48	383	483	475	475
Honduras	3	4	4	4	18	35	38	38	60	133	150	150
Mexico	37	69	75	75	69	68	64	60	2,547	4,693	4,777	4,500
Panama, Republic of	1	1	1	1	40	74	37	35	30	74	37	35
United States	3,033	2,284	1,398	1,502	117	189	249	249	355,504	431,641	347,504	373,939
Bermuda	2	1	1	1	40	55	50	50	79	55	50	50
Cuba	20	24	25	25	95	125	152	160	1,894	3,009	3,800	4,000
Dominican Republic	2	4	2	4	48	30	38	19	96	69	77	75
Jamaica	2	3	3	3	30	30	25	25	60	33	75	75
Total	3,649	2,774	1,818	1,948	117	182	229	229	427,246	505,531	417,116	446,993
Europe												
Austria	507	423	420	442	206	168	225	271	104,632	71,135	94,335	119,783
Belgium	2/ 425	233	233	239	2/ 294	287	357	314	2/124,801	66,803	83,186	75,052
Denmark	188	277	269	255	254	264	317	288	47,668	73,312	85,245	73,413
Finland	213	211	237	235	228	205	253	240	48,624	43,305	59,848	56,438
France	3,786	2,863	2,595	2,600	167	161	174	201	631,052	460,217	451,142	522,000
Germany	2,871	2,660	2,834	2,873	250	237	309	333	718,100	631,000	876,478	955,327
Greece	53	75	97	92	100	140	172	163	5,308	10,487	16,663	15,000
Iceland	2	2	2	2	142	136	180	175	284	273	360	350
Ireland	328	379	310	300	300	291	322	318	98,286	110,348	99,911	95,532
Italy	993	982	968	975	97	90	103	109	96,433	88,460	99,647	106,555
Malta	9	8	7	7	118	75	64	57	1,104	617	450	400
Netherlands	320	474	343	379	315	340	465	354	100,744	161,097	159,631	134,113
Norway	127	152	143	139	259	280	305	328	32,830	42,537	43,632	45,551
Portugal	77	195	213	220	270	170	177	174	20,755	33,180	37,661	38,257
Spain	1,125	893	890	890	152	112	155	155	170,977	99,743	137,787	137,787
Sweden	326	353	337	339	204	195	201	218	66,631	68,742	67,571	73,781
Switzerland	116	173	141	143	220	252	311	250	25,531	43,521	43,794	35,759
United Kingdom	720	1,402	990	987	254	259	296	303	182,859	362,551	292,992	298,667
Yugoslavia	699	650	592	585	89	77	71	105	62,026	50,000	41,740	61,261
Total above	12,885	12,405	11,621	11,702	197	195	232	243	2,538,645	2,417,328	2,692,073	2,845,026
Other Europe 3/	11,830	9,807	11,273	11,023	203	165	140	164	2,401,352	1,616,034	1,583,125	1,809,125
Total Europe	24,715	22,212	22,894	22,725	200	182	187	205	4,939,997	4,033,362	4,275,198	4,654,151
U.S.S.R. (Europe and Asia)	20,203	22,131	23,400	23,000	134	125	124	120	2,713,054	2,770,500	2,900,000	2,750,000

Asia												
Cyprus	6	10	11	12	148	135	171	158	958	1,350	1,882	1,900
Israel 4/	1	2	9	9	84	58	201	200	84	1,212	1,839	1,800
Lebanon	5/	11	9	9	5/	121	122	122	5/	1,335	1,102	1,100
Syria	6/ 17	8	10	10	6/ 90	83	74	70	6/ 1,531	689	735	700
Turkey	135	151	252	250	49	79	127	128	6,645	11,897	31,967	32,000
India	400	542	613	600	100	97	99	100	40,000	52,733	60,853	60,000
Indonesia	27	14	18	18	72	50	56	56	1,941	698	1,000	1,000
Japan	388	531	488	500	165	141	180	185	64,103	74,930	88,000	92,409
North Korea	221	237	260	250	77	74	62	64	17,097	17,559	16,000	16,000
South Korea	47	120	95	100	95	85	95	100	4,447	10,240	9,000	10,000
Philippine Islands	1	1	1	1	70	70	70	70	9	8	8	8
Total	1,243	1,627	1,766	1,759	110	106	120	123	136,815	172,651	212,386	216,917
South America												
Argentina	311	432	400	400	85	86	100	100	26,523	36,978	40,000	40,000
Bolivia	125	150	175	175	56	53	57	57	7,000	8,000	10,000	10,000
Brazil	168	325	370	370	94	71	70	68	15,775	23,202	25,720	25,000
Chile	121	131	132	130	129	152	152	154	15,622	19,910	20,118	20,000
Colombia	167	242	250	250	81	71	72	72	13,467	17,222	18,000	18,000
Ecuador	62	62	60	60	78	45	50	50	4,450	2,806	3,000	3,000
Peru	400	450	602	600	75	81	82	83	30,157	36,601	49,500	50,000
Uruguay	18	22	25	25	63	56	60	60	1,135	1,239	1,500	1,500
Venezuela	15	15	12	12	24	37	83	83	367	551	1,000	1,000
Total	1,387	1,829	2,026	2,022	83	80	83	83	114,496	146,509	168,838	168,500
Africa												
Algeria	45	45	55	55	124	126	164	164	5,575	5,690	9,000	9,000
Belgian Congo	3	3	7	7	110	125	86	86	288	358	600	600
Egypt	10	33	25	25	181	198	244	280	1,813	6,540	6,099	7,000
Eritrea	1	2	2	2	36	40	40	40	6	88	80	80
Madagascar	31	53	45	45	52	46	20	20	1,615	2,416	909	900
Mauritius	1	1	1	1	131	81	125	125	31	81	125	125
Mozambique	3	5	1	1	78	75	75	75	78	118	120	120
Nigeria and Cameroons	2	2	1	1	30	37	40	40	21	29	40	40
Southern Rhodesia	3	5	4	4	81	87	100	100	254	437	400	400
Tunisia	6	5	5	5	65	134	120	120	393	681	600	600
Union of South Africa	89	151	140	150	88	67	64	60	6,697	10,143	9,000	9,000
Total	194	305	286	296	86	87	94	94	16,771	26,581	26,973	27,865
Oceania												
Australia	114	144	125	125	113	136	120	120	12,900	19,577	15,000	15,000
New Zealand	21	20	16	15	221	232	222	233	4,651	4,634	3,547	3,500
Total	135	164	141	140	130	148	132	132	17,551	24,211	18,547	18,500
World Total	51,526	51,042	52,331	51,890	162	150	153	156	8,365,930	7,679,345	8,019,058	8,282,926

1/ Preliminary. 2/ Not comparable with later years as prewar years apparently include small farms and gardens. 3/ Includes Albania, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Germany (Eastern Zone), Hungary, Poland and Rumania. 4/ Jewish farming only. 5/ Included with Syria. 6/ Includes Lebanon.

Foreign Agricultural Service. Prepared or estimated on the basis of official statistics of foreign governments, reports of U.S. Foreign Service officers, results of office research and other information. Years shown refer to year of harvest in the Northern Hemisphere and includes the harvest immediately following in the Southern Hemisphere. Averages are for years stated or for the nearest comparable period. The yields per acre for countries having a small production were calculated on the basis of unrounded estimates of acreage.

SHORT CROP OF SPANISH GREEN OLIVES

Reports from Spain indicate a 1953 green olive crop of below-average quantity but of very high quality. It is estimated that the production of fine Seville olives is about 70,000 hogsheads (33,900 short tons) which is considerably below the average of 100,000 hogsheads (48,400 short tons). However, the percentage of export-quality fruit is much higher than last year.

Very high prices are being paid to the growers, and exporters are relying on a readjustment of the export exchange rate in order to be able to ship at a profit.

In accordance with measures adopted in August to expand the production areas for green olives for export to include the provinces of Huelva, Badajoz, Cordoba, and Malaga as well as Seville, the Green Olive Board has drawn up a set of rules governing the preparation of olives in the several provinces. Fine Manzanillas may be prepared only in Seville and the adjacent district of Huelva. The Seville-Huelva sector may also prepare "Serranas", "Moronez" and "Rapazallas". Badajoz may prepare "Carraquenas", Cordoba "Cordobis", and Malaga, "Alorenas."

The only types of these olives which are normally exported to the United States are the Queens, either plain or stuffed, and stuffed Manzanillas. Because of the short crop, it is possible that exports to the United States this year may be limited to stuffed olives.

Because of the rejection by the United States Food and Drug Administration of several lots of wormy fruit from last year's crop, especially broken olives, Spanish authorities have prohibited further shipments of broken olives for the present. There are a number of claims pending for settlement based on rejection of orders.

U.K. PURCHASES OF RAISINS FROM THE U.S.

The Federal Raisin Administrative Committee has contracted recently with the British Ministry of Food for the sale of 25,000 short tons of United States raisins from the surplus pool at $138 per ton, f.a.s. excluding the United States export payment. Although the British Government will make the purchase this year, the control on dried fruit will be discontinued on December 1, 1953, and next year's purchases will be made by the trade through regular commercial channels.

The above purchase, plus supplies from other sources (primarily Australia, Greece and Turkey) may meet the United Kingdom's requirements until September 30, 1954.

WORLD COTTON STOCKS UP 15 PERCENT

World cotton stocks on July 31, 1953, estimated at 17.1 million bales (of 500 pounds gross, except United States stocks which are in running bales) are about 15 percent higher than the 14.8 million bales on hand a year ago and 45 percent above the 11.8 million-bale estimate of 2 years ago. Stock estimates for Southern Hemisphere countries are calculated midseason stocks including unginned cotton on hand 1 to 3 months after harvest was completed in most cases.

Stocks in the surplus-producing countries as a group increased by 3.2 million bales while those in the net-importing countries declined by nearly 750,000 bales. The United States accounted for 2.7 million or 84 percent of the increase in the exporting countries and represented an increase of nearly 100 percent in stocks in this country. In contrast to the situation a year ago, almost the entire increase in world stocks is composed of American-type cotton, the principal exceptions being about 100,000 bales of Egyptian-type Sakalaridis in the Anglo-Egyptian Sudan and possible increases in Egyptian or Asiatic types in importing countries where detailed statistics are not available.

Brazil, with a 600,000-bale increase in stocks, and the Sudan with 100,000 bales are the only foreign exporting countries where any significant increases were reported. Stocks in nearly all other exporting countries were lower than those of a year ago. The increase in Brazil is attributed to a government price-support program under which the entire surplus was purchased or accepted under loan at prices well above the world market level. In the Anglo-Egyptian Sudan the increase in stocks is attributed to slower than usual ginning and clearance through ports.

Stocks in importing countries as a group declined from 6.4 to 5.6 million bales, with the greatest decreases in India (625,000 bales) and the United Kingdom (266,000). In both countries stocks were higher than normal a year ago after heavy importing in previous years and were allowed to decline to a more normal level in 1953. With the exception of the United Kingdom, Sweden, Switzerland, and Italy, stocks in the importing countries are generally down to a minimum working stock level of about 3 months' requirements.

Cotton price policies now in effect in most foreign exporting countries are intended to reduce prices to the level necessary to liquidate surplus stocks and trade data indicate that such stocks are rapidly being reduced. No significant stocks of exportable surpluses are expected to remain in these countries at the end of the current season except in Brazil where stocks of low-grade old-crop cotton are probably too large to dispose of in 1 year and in Egypt where a large portion of the stocks are composed of the lower grades of Karnak which generally move more slowly than other qualities.

(Table on following page)

This is one of a series of regularly scheduled reports on world agricultural developments approved by the Foreign Agricultural Service Committee on Foreign Crop and Livestock Statistics. It is based in part upon U. S. Foreign Service reports.

COTTON: Estimated world stocks, by principal countries, July 31, 1953, with comparisons 1/

(In bales of 500 pounds gross)

Country	Stocks on hand July 31			
	1939	1951	1952	1953
	1,000 bales	1,000 bales	1,000 bales	1,000 bales
Surplus countries				
Mexico 2/	150	110	190	90
United States 3/	13,033	2,278	2,789	5,502
Iran	40	10	30	15
Pakistan	-	140	375	350
Turkey	70	50	150	170
Argentina	243	424	500	425
Brazil	661	640	1,400	2,000
Paraguay	11	23	30	28
Peru	200	163	230	245
Anglo-Egyptian Sudan	107	209	96	214
Belgian Congo	150	97	94	84
British East Africa	75	67	110	111
Egypt	325	432	898	901
French Equatorial Africa	15	88	101	62
Others 4/	1,055	845	982	987
Total surplus countries	16,135	5,576	7,975	11,184
Deficit countries				
Canada	56	74	60	49
Cuba	10	4	4	5
Belgium	150	114	118	123
France	700	313	265	365
Western Germany	5/	290	210	224
Italy	250	425	390	330
Netherlands	80	72	51	53
Spain	50	16	44	38
Sweden	60	67	98	102
Switzerland	100	88	88	95
United Kingdom	1,045	1,228	1,282	1,016
China, incl. Manchuria 6/	900	250	450	490
India 6/ 7/	2,165	1,650	2,165	1,540
Japan	556	700	540	520
Korea 6/	43	18	28	8
Colombia	5	47	41	60
Australia	20	26	24	19
Others 8/	375	503	502	579
Total deficit countries	7,065	5,885	6,360	5,616
Afloat 9/	550	350	500	300
World total	23,750	11,811	14,835	17,100

1/ Estimates for Southern Hemisphere countries include unginned cotton on hand at the end of July. 2/ Stocks on June 30 (Mexican crop year). 3/ Running bales. 4/ Mostly U.S.S.R., Mozambique, and Nigeria. 5/ Included with "Others." 6/ Includes estimates for noncommercial stocks. 7/ Includes Pakistan prior to partition in August 1947. 8/ Mostly countries in Europe and South America not listed above. 9/ Estimated.

FINAL 1953 BRAZIL NUT REPORT

The 1953 estimate of Brazil nut production in Brazil remains at 33,000 short tons, unshelled basis, compared with 18,700 tons in 1952 and 33,000 tons in 1951. The estimate is 66 percent higher than the 10-year (1941-50) average of 19,900 tons and 22 percent higher than the 5-year (1946-50) average of 27,100 tons.

The trend of nut stocks entering the market and of exports verified through September 31, indicates that the final distribution of the current crop by export districts will be as follows: Belem - 19,500 tons, Manaus - 12,800 tons, Itacoatiara - 400 tons, Parintins - 200 tons and Santarem - 100 tons. During the 1952 season, collections in Belem were 11,900 tons, Manaus - 6,600 tons and the balance of 200 tons in Itacotiara.

Despite the compensatory prices being paid by exporters to producers, no significant changes in the above 1953 crop distribution and total forecast is expected. This year's harvest is virtually over and stocks in the interior points are believed to be exhausted.

Available stocks of unshelled nuts at Amazon exporting ports were almost exhausted by the end of September 1953. At that time from 2,200 to 3,300 short tons of unshelled nuts were awaiting shipment from Belem to Germany. Existing stocks of unshelled nuts are presently in the shelling process at plants in Belem and Manaus. It is roughly estimated that from 5,000 to 7,000 cases of 66 pounds each (165-230 tons) of shelled nuts, which are already contracted for by United States importers, are being prepared for shipment before the end of November 1953. Only 1,000 to 2,000 cases (33-66 tons) of shelled nuts are estimated still available for sale before this year's exporting season is over.

Preliminary statistics show that, during the first 9 months of 1953, a total of 19,579 short tons of unshelled and 4,057 tons of shelled Brazil nuts were exported from Brazil, compared with 10,908 tons of unshelled and 2,349 tons of shelled Brazil nuts during the comparable period of 1952. Of the 1953 shipments the United States took 10,973 tons of unshelled and 3,048 tons of shelled; the United Kingdom took 6,937 tons of unshelled and 877 tons of shelled; Germany took 1,401 tons of unshelled and 9 tons of shelled; and other importers received 268 tons of unshelled and 123 tons of shelled Brazil nuts.

The new resolution of Brazil's Federal Superintendency of Money and Credit, effective July 1, 1953 increased from 30 to 50 percent the margin of the foreign exchange proceeds earned from exports that can be sold in the free exchange market. This greatly encouraged the Brazil nut business in the Amazon Valley. Both wholesale and export markets were particularly active, steady and firm during June-September and almost one-half of the unshelled, and two-thirds of the shelled nuts exported between January and September of this year were shipped after June 1, 1953. Prices set by producers and dealers to local exporters rose to the highest levels ever attained before declining in late August and September.

BRAZIL NUTS: Estimated commercial production in Brazil, 1953 with comparisons

(Rounded to nearest 100 short tons)

Year	Bolivia	Brazil	Total
	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons
Average:			
1941-50	1,000	19,900	20,900
1946-50	100	27,100	27,200
Annual:			
1947	100	30,400	30,500
1948	100	18,900	19,000
1949	200	35,200	35,400
1950	200	23,200	23,400
1951	200	33,000	33,200
1952 1/	200	18,700	18,900
1953 2/	200	33,000	33,200

1/ Preliminary. 2/ Preliminary forecast.

Foreign Agricultural Service. Prepared or estimated on th basis of official statistics of foreign governments, results of office research, Trade and other information.

UNITED STATES: Imports of Brazil nuts (Crop year, September-August)

Year	Average 1941-42 1950-51	Average 1946-47 1950-51	Annual 1950-51	Annual 1951-52	Annual 1952-53
	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons
			SHELLED		
Brazil	2,565	3,169	2,470	3,069	2,926
Other	32	11	32	78	161
Total	2,597	3,180	2,502	3,147	3,087
			UNSHELLED		
Brazil	7,193	10,799	4,579	11,870	9,208
Others	5	3	14	9	16
Total	7,198	10,802	4,593	11,879	9,224

Compiled from official sources of the Bureau of the Census.

Foreign buyers have continued to maintain their quotations more or less stable. United States importers paid from 52 to 60 cents per pound, f.o.b., for standard assortments of shelled nuts and 14.5 to 17.5 cents per pound f.o.b., for unshelled nuts. Approximate f.o.b. prices per pound unit of shelled nuts quoted or paid by the United States importers since late in September have been:

Smalls - whole	60 cents
Mediums - whole	57.5 cents
Broken	51 cents
Standard Assortment	55-56 cents

During September 1953, Germany importers purchased about 2,200 to 3,300 short tons of unshelled nuts at the price of 43 to 45 cents per 2.2 pounds f.o.b., Belem.

BRAZIL NUTS: Exports from Brazil, calendar years 1941-52 and January-September 1952-53

Year	Unshelled	Shelled
	Short tons	Short tons
Average:		
1941-50	9,525	3,171
1946-50	15,491	3,986
Annual:		
1941	10,026	6,164
1942	5,834	3,422
1943	180	195
1944	958	450
1945	719	1,548
1946	13,897	5,062
1947	17,162	4,088
1948	12,843	2,046
1949	18,552	4,777
1950	15,000	3,957
1951	22,720	4,638
1952	11,557	2,843
January-September		
1952	10,908	2,349
1953 1/	19,579	4,057
of which:		
United States	10,973	3,048
United Kingdom	6,937	377
Germany	1,401	9
Others	268	123
by district:		
Belem	8,077	3,046
Manaus	10,814	1,011
Santarem	77	0
Parintins	205	0
Itacoatiara	406	0

1/ Preliminary.

Advance trade reports on the coming 1954 harvest season of unshelled Brazil nuts in the Amazon Valley are still uncertain. However, there is a favorable working disposition being shown by producers and exporters in view of the good results obtained from the 1953 harvest. A preliminary attempt to forecast the 1954 crop estimates stocks to be available in each exporting center at 16,500 tons for Belem, 10,600 tons for Manaus and 400 tons for the other 3 ports, or a total of 27,500 tons.--By Francis G. Thomason, based in part upon U. S. Foreign Service reports.

LARGEST FOREIGN DRIED FIG OUTPUT SINCE 1947

The 1953 preliminary estimate of dried fig production in Algeria, Greece, Italy, Portugal, Syria-Lebanon and Turkey 1/ is 174,000 short tons, compared with the 128,800 tons (revised) in the same 6 areas in 1952. The estimate is 8 percent greater than the 10-year (1941-50) average of 160,300 tons and 1 percent greater than the 5-year (1946-50) average of 172,100 tons.

Sizable increases in production are expected in all 6 areas reporting compared with the crop of 1952. The fig harvests in Turkey, Greece, and Italy were late this year and the optimistic estimates in those areas will depend largely on good weather during the drying season. Algeria harvested the best crop since 1947 and completed the drying process before the fall rains. Prospects for good quality figs are reported from all the important exporting areas.

The 1952-53 pack in the 6 countries reporting was completely disposed of before the arrival of new-crop figs on the market. The 1952-53 export season ended with an estimated 57,800 tons of the 1952 pack moving into export channels, compared with about 46,000 tons in 1951-52. Of the 1952 pack exported, Turkey shipped 22,771 tons or 39 percent of the total, followed by Greece with 13,980 tons, Algeria with 13,815 tons and Italy with 7,106 tons. Almost 85 percent of the Turkish exports moved to 12 Western European nations, the most important of which were the United Kingdom, Western Germany and Austria. Western Germany and the United States took 75 percent of the exports of Greece. The bulk of the Algerian edible dried figs moved into France and French territories, while the majority of inedible dried fig shipments reached Western Europe (chiefly Germany and Austria).

The United States imported a total of 2,852 short tons of dried figs during 1952-53, compared with 4,567 tons in 1951-52. Of the 1952-53 imports, 1,567 tons came from Greece, 1,050 tons from Turkey and the balance from Italy and Portugal.

Movement of the 1953-54 pack began late this fall in Turkey, Greece and Italy. In Greece, however, early and adequate preparations were made for the processing of the crop and the quality of the dried fig exports this year were expected to exceed greatly that of 1952-53.

1/ Information from Argentina has not been received.

FIGS, DRIED: Estimated commercial production in specified countries 1953 with comparisons

(Rounded to nearest 100 short tons)

Year	Algeria	Argentina	Greece	Italy	Portugal 1/
	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons
Average:					
1941-50	22,100	800	22,100	69,100	10,400
1946-50	30,000	900	25,400	66,000	11,500
Annual:					
1947	48,600	1,000	27,800	66,000	11,400
1948	21,600	1,100	26,700	67,500	8,500
1949	34,200	600	26,600	71,800	8,900
1950	22,700	600	24,700	64,400	16,800
1951	34,000	1,100	23,300	39,600	11,700
1952 2/ 3/	29,400	1,000	21,600	38,000	7,400
1953 2/	44,000	4/	27,500	55,000	8,000

Year	Syria-Lebanon	Turkey	Foreign Total	United States	World Total
	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons
Average:					
1941-50	5,800	30,800	161,100	32,400	193,500
1946-50	7,500	31,700	173,000	31,500	204,500
Annual:					
1947	9,500	37,400	201,700	38,000	239,700
1948	9,400	35,200	170,000	30,300	200,300
1949	4,200	22,000	168,300	28,400	196,700
1950	3,300	25,300	157,800	24,400	182,200
1951	4,200	27,500	141,400	29,500	171,400
1952 3/ 2/	2,700	29,700	129,800	28,200	158,000
1953 2/	3,300	35,200	5/ 174,000	6/ 18,700	5/ 182,700

1/ Merchantable figs only.
2/ Preliminary.
3/ Revised.
4/ Not yet available.
5/ Not including Argentina.
6/ Not official - trade estimate only; excludes production of substandards.

Foreign Agricultural Service. Prepared or estimated on the basis of Official statistics of foreign governments, results of office research, Trade and other information.

Forward sales to United States buyers were expected to total more than 5,500 short tons, compared with 3,630 tons one year earlier. On the other hand forward sales of Turkish figs were negligible before September. The local Bourse did not open officially before September 4 because of the delay in announcing the new export regime by the government. However, since the completing of the first steamer orders, the lower prices quoted in late September were attracting considerable business in the Turkish market.

UNITED STATES: Imports of dried figs

(Crop year, September-August)

Countries	Average		Annual		
	1941-42 1950-51	1946-47 1950-51	1950-51	1951-52	1952-53 1/
	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons
Greece	695	1,387	3,310	1,282	1,567
Italy	79	158	134	291	173
Portugal	62	114	491	665	61
Turkey	555	749	1,057	2,059	1,050
Others	2	4	8	270	1
TOTAL	1,393	2,412	5,000	4,567	2,852

1/ Preliminary.

Compiled from official sources of the Bureau of the Census.

The quality of the Algerian crop was very good this season and this area expects an exportable surplus of 17,600 tons. It is estimated that about 3,300 tons of this surplus will not find a market this year. Germany and Austria appear interested in the industrial figs of Algeria, but because of the high quality of the crop, the percentage of inedible figs available for export is low.--by Francis G. Thomason, based in part upon U.S. Foreign Service report.

U.S. EXPORTS OF DRY PEAS LOWEST IN DECADE

United States exports of dry peas in the crop year ending July 31, 1953 totaled 482,000 bags. This was the smallest export in several years comparing with 612,000 bags the previous crop year and 978,000 bags in the 1951 calendar year. In the calendar year 1950 exports totaled 501,000 bags but in 1949 and for several years previous exports ranged from 1 to 2 million bags annually. Most of these large shipments were under Government aid programs. For example more than 1 million bags went to Germany in 1948 and 505,000 bags went to Japan and 378,000 to Germany in 1949. One-half-million bags went to France in each of 1945 and 1946. In 1944 the U.S.S.R. received 483,000 bags.

PEAS, DRY EDIBLE: Exports from United States by country of destination, calendar year averages 1935-39 and 1945-49, annual 1948-51; crop years 1951-52 and 1952-53

Country of destination	Calendar year: Average 1935-39	Average 1945-49	Annual 1947	1948	1949	1950	1951 2/	Crop year 1/ 1951-52 2/	1952-53
	1,000 bags 3/	1,000 bags 3/	1,000 bags 3/	1,000 bags 3/	1,000 bags 3/	1,000 bags 3/	1,000 bags 3/	1,000 bags 3/	1,000 bags 3/
AMERICAS:									
Canada	16	58	65	34	55	116	86	114	72
Mexico	1	2	3	2	3	2	3	3	3
Panama, Republic of	3	2	2	3	4	5	7	5	7
Panama, Canal Zone	4/	2	3	3	2	1	1	1	2
Cuba	54	101	180	65	73	82	84	134	107
Trinidad and Tobago	1	4	5	0	0	15	5/	1	0
Colombia	5/	5/	5/	1	1	15	2	3	2
Surinam	5/	1	0	5/	1	2	3	4	13
Peru	5/	5/	5/	0	0	0	6	12	16
Venezuela	2	22	29	34	33	111	180	202	107
British Guiana	1	5/	0	0	0	0	1	6	3
Brazil	5/	28	75	25	1	32	4	4	2
Others	7	12	14	14	6	3	4	5	5
Total	85	232	376	181	179	384	381	494	339
EUROPE:									
Italy	5/	118	24	14	5/	1	5/	0	4
Netherlands	5/	17	33	40	1	3	5/	27	35
United Kingdom	2	247	463	23	25	5/	6	5	3
Austria	5/	97	5	359	110	5/	5/	0	0
France	5/	200	50	4	5	0	0	0	5/
Germany	5/	349	98	1,095	378	35	21	30	44
Sweden	1	3	4	6	0	0	5/	0	5/
Belgium	5/	31	14	3	1	5	1	2	29
Iceland	5/	3	3	5	4	6	2	1	6
Ireland	1	3	2	1	8	1	4	2	0
Switzerland	5/	15	22	5	14	59	27	23	15
Yugoslavia	0	96	3	5/	5/	0	480	0	1
Others	8	6/ 247	16	12	1	5/	1	5/	1
Total	12	1,426	737	1,567	547	110	542	90	138
AFRICA:									
Total	5/	35	1	1	5/	5/	1	5/	1
ASIA:									
Japan	5/	174	0	366	505	5/	0	1	5/
Korea	0	5/	0	5/	0	0	49	0	5/
Philippines, Republic of	1	5	2	1	2	1	2	1	2
Palestine - Israel	5/	5/	0	1	5/	4	1	24	5/
Others	1	6	3	1	1	1	1	1	1
Total	2	185	5	369	508	6	53	27	3
OCEANIA:									
Total	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1
WORLD TOTAL	100	1,879	1,121	2,119	1,235	501	978	612	482

1/ Crop year beginning August 1. 2/ The last four months of calendar year 1951 included also in crop year 1951-52. 3/ 100 pound bags. 4/ Included in Panama, Republic of. 5/ Less than 500 bags. 6/ Includes 14 countries, the most important as follows: Greece 134,000 bags; Poland 34,000 bags; Czechoslovakia 34,000 bags; and Yugoslavia 96,000 bags. All of these are 5 year average quantities, the total of which may have been exported in less than 5 years, even all in a few months.

Source: Official records of the Bureau of Census.

Over the past 2 decades United States peas have gone in small or large lots to many countries in the world. Most of the smaller shipments went commercially. Among the smaller importers there are about 30 countries which have bought dry peas in the United States markets in almost every year for more than two decades. In some years certain of these countries have taken large quantities and in some years small quantities. A conservative estimate of the minimum combined-take of these 30 countries totals about 300,000 bags.

In addition to this minimum however, the regular customers frequently take larger quantities and there always appears a number of irregular customers in the market. Consequently the lowest annual shipment recorded in the last decade has been near 500,000 bags. About this quantity was exported in this crop year ended last July, also in Calendar 1950 and 1952. Furthermore except for the unusual export to Yugoslavia of 480,000 bags in 1951 exports that year would have totaled about 500,000 bags.

Thus it appears that to satisfy the minimum annual demand of some 30 regular repeat customers and the irregular ones it requires about 500,000 bags of peas per year. This is 5 times as large as the 1935-39 average United States exports which was 100,000 bags.

Exports in 1952-53 might have been larger than the 482,000 bags if supplies had been more plentiful. The 1952 crop estimated at 2.6 million bags was 31 percent less than in 1951 and the smallest since 1940. The 1953-54 supply is larger however. The crop is estimated at 3.3 million bags, 28 percent larger than last year.--By Orval E. Goodsell, based in part upon U.S. Foreign Service reports.

WORLD COTTONSEED PRODUCTION EXPECTED TO SHOW SLIGHT DECLINE

World cottonseed production during 1953-54 is tentatively forecast by the Foreign Agricultural Service at 16.7 million short tons on the basis of the preliminary estimate of lint production 1/. This volume of seed would represent a decline of 140,000 tons or less than one percent from the 1952-53 outturn now revised to almost 16.9 million tons. However, it would be an increase of 9 percent from the prewar average and an increase of 40 percent from the immediate postwar average.

The expected decline in world production is explained largely by the sharp drop of about one-third in Egyptian output. Relatively smaller decreases are foreseen in Mexico, Turkey, Pakistan, the Belgian Congo, the Sudan, and possibly the major-producing countries of South America.

The most significant increase is expected in the United States, which normally accounts for considerably more than one-third of the world total. India, the second largest cottonseed producer, also anticipates a marked increase. Slightly larger crops are foreseen in China, Iran, Syria, Greece and Uganda.

1/ See "World Cotton Production Down Slightly," Foreign Crops and Markets, October 19, 1953.

COTTONSEED: Production in specified countries and the world, averages 1935-39 and 1945-49, annual 1949-53

Continent and country	Year beginning August 1 1/						
	Average		1949	1950	1951	1952 2/	1953 2/
	1935-39	1945-49					
	1,000 short tons	1,000 short tons	1,000 short tons	1,000 short tons	1,000 short tons	1,000 short tons	1,000 short tons
NORTH AMERICA							
El Salvador	2	10	14	13	20	22	15
Mexico	160	277	450	552	636	600	528
United States	5,554	4,873	6,559	4,105	6,286	6,176	6,376
Haiti	12	6	4	3	4	4	4
Total 3/	5,735	5,175	7,045	4,690	6,980	6,845	6,965
EUROPE							
Greece	39	27	37	60	66	57	69
Italy	11	6	5	11	13	17	13
Spain	5	9	7	13	14	31	38
Bulgaria 4/	19	11	-	-	-	-	-
Rumania 4/	1	-	-	-	10	-	-
Total 3/	75	65	75	100	115	130	145
U.S.S.R. (Europe and Asia)	1,640	1,117	1,295	1,680	-	-	-
ASIA							
Iran	91	45	51	69	66	88	107
Syria	15	17	33	74	120	113	123
Turkey	126	137	227	276	306	352	328
Afghanistan	27	9	11	21	30	31	36
Burma	54	18	20	28	42	50	-
China (incl. Manchuria)	1,593	1,086	952	1,361	1,680	1,590	-
India	5/ 2,984	1,290	1,316	1,523	1,764	1,666	1,792
Indonesia	5	2	3	2	-	-	-
Pakistan	5/	522	528	625	683	765	714
Japan	1	2	2	1	1	1	-
Korea 6/	101	45	66	46	51	33	-
Thailand	4	14	11	15	15	17	-
Total (excl.U.S.S.R.)3/	5,015	3,195	3,230	4,070	4,790	4,730	4,910
SOUTH AMERICA							
Argentina	147	218	328	240	296	293	-
Brazil	935	649	624	792	936	768	-
Colombia	12	14	21	18	25	42	-
Paraguay	20	24	31	25	37	27	28
Peru	202	164	187	215	229	237	225
Venezuela	6	6	3	3	9	6	7
Total 3/	1,330	1,080	1,205	1,300	1,540	1,380	1,305
AFRICA AND OCEANIA							
Anglo-Egyptian Sudan	132	131	163	236	152	206	-
Belgian Congo	87	99	112	100	111	115	-
Tanganyika	25	19	20	21	20	33	20
Uganda	143	116	144	147	161	136	-
Egypt	1,007	778	959	937	890	1,093	748
French Equatorial Africa	22	53	61	48	74	66	-
French West Africa	16	7	11	7	18	-	-
Mozambique 7/	18	53	42	67	71	83	-
Nigeria	19	24	31	38	56	46	-
Angola	7	12	14	12	11	16	12
Total	1,500	1,305	1,575	1,635	1,605	1,860	1,485
World total	15,295	11,945	14,425	13,480	16,955	16,865	16,725

1/ Years shown refer to years of harvest. 2/ Preliminary. 3/ Includes estimates for the above countries for which data are not available and for minor producing countries. 4/ Figures from 1943 to date are not comparable with prewar figures because of boundary changes. 5/ 1935-39 figure for India includes Pakistan. 6/ Figures from 1941 to date are for South Korea only. 7/ Exports.

Foreign Agricultural Service. United States figures were compiled from official records; figures for other countries were calculated from lint-production estimates.

North American cottonseed production may be the largest since 1949 as a result of the 200,000 ton increase expected in the United States. The Bureau of Agricultural Economics reports that if the ratio of lint to cottonseed is the same as the average for the past 5 years, production would be 6,376,000 tons. This compares with 6,176,000 tons in 1952.

Production in Asia may be up roughly 4 percent. India's crop, estimated at almost 1.8 million tons, is an increase of 126,000 tons from last year and the largest outturn of the postwar period. China's crop also is expected to show a sizable increase. On the other hand, reduced acreage resulted in considerably smaller seed production in Turkey and Pakistan.

A pre-season forecast of South American production shows a drop of roughly 75,000 tons in seed from the 1953-54 cotton crop.

In Africa, cottonseed production is down possibly one-fourth from 1952. Compulsory reduction in Egypt's cotton acreage for the purpose of increasing acreage planted to food crops resulted in a decline of 345,000 tons of seed. Somewhat smaller production also is foreseen in Anglo-Egyptian Sudan and the Belgian Congo.

This is one of a series of regularly scheduled reports on world agricultural production approved by the Foreign Agricultural Service Committee on Foreign Crop and Livestock Statistics. It is based in part upon U.S. Foreign Service reports.

BRITISH AND NORWEGIAN WHALE OIL OUTPUT SOLD IN ADVANCE

The British Ministry of Food has agreed to pay £67-10-0 per long ton ($168.75 per short ton) for the forthcoming 1954 output of whale oil by British and South African whaling companies, according to reports from London. The price paid for the past season's output was £76 per ton ($190) and for the 1952 production the price was £110 ($275). Most of the British ships are expected to leave for the Antarctic whaling grounds in November as the Antarctic season opens on January 2, 1954. (See Foreign Crop and Markets of October 5, 1953, page 257.)

According to trade sources, the Norwegian output also has been sold in advance at an average of £68-5-0 c.i.f. per long ton ($170.60) with a range of £67-10-0 to £71-0-0 ($168.75 to $177.50). Disposition of the Norwegian production is reported as follows: Norwegian domestic users--51,520 short tons; other Scandanavian--28,000; for disposal in Europe but excluding the United Kingdom and the Soviet Union--87,920 tons.

The advance sale of the Norwegian and British production now means that very little whale oil from the forthcoming 1954 output remains unsold; specifically, that which will result from Japanese and Argentinian operations only. The Dutch output always is sold to the Netherlands' Government and the Soviet production is sold to the Russian Government. Panama is reported to hold about 33,000 tons from last season but will not be participating in the 1953-54 operations.

No sperm oil had been sold in advance as of October 21, 1953.

U. S. FOREIGN TRADE IN AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS DURING AUGUST, 1953 1/

In contrast with the steady downward trend of the preceding 7 or 8 months, United States exports of agricultural products during August, the second month of fiscal 1953-54, showed a substantial improvement, the total amounting in value to $201,207,000.

This represented an increase of 2.4 percent over the $196,463,000 worth of farm products exported in July, 1953, and of 7.8 percent over those for August 1952, which were valued at only $186,682,000. On the other hand, the August 1953 exports of nonagricultural products, amounting in value to $972,154,000, fell off by 15.0 percent compared with the $1,143,205,000 worth sent abroad during the preceding month. However, exports of such commodities were 9.5 percent above the $887,658,000 worth exported during August 1952.

The Nation's exports of all commodities, agricultural as well as nonagricultural, amounted to $1,173,361,000 in value during August 1953 compared with $1,339,668,000 a month earlier and $1,074,340,000 during August a year ago. Agricultural products constituted 17.1 percent of the total outward movement during the month under review compared with 14.7 percent a month earlier and 17.4 percent in August last year.

On a dollar-value basis, wheat and wheat flour continued to hold first place with exports valued at $42,456,000. At this level, however, the value of the exports was 23.2 percent under the $55,249,000 worth sold abroad during the preceding month of July and 27.3 percent under the $58,372,000 worth exported in August last year. Cotton exports ran a close second to those of wheat during August, with an outward movement valued at $35,042,000 compared with $21,017,000 in J ly this year and $20,387,000 in August last year. Third place went to leaf tobacco, the exports of which were valued at $26,385,000 in August compared with $14,047,000 in July and with $21,435,000 in August a year ago.

1/ More complete details than presented in this summary will be published in U. S. Foreign Trade in Agricultural Products for August 1953, available on request from Foreign Agricultural Service, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington 25, D. C.

UNITED STATES: Summary of exports, domestic, of selected agricultural products, during August 1952 and 1953

Commodity exported	Unit	August Quantity 1952	August Quantity 1953	August Value 1952	August Value 1953
		Thousands	Thousands	1,000 dollars	1,000 dollars
ANIMAL PRODUCTS:					
Butter	Lb.	48	29	40	26
Cheese	Lb.	369	291	201	138
Milk, condensed	Lb.	1,665	937	384	228
Milk, evaporated	Lb.	9,029	10,449	1,489	1,479
Milk, whole, dried	Lb.	2,921	6,105	1,620	3,087
Nonfat dry milk solids	Lb.	5,824	7,801	1,095	695
Eggs, dried	Lb.	659	24	265	27
Beef and veal, total 1/	Lb.	1,240	2,973	376	718
Pork, total 1/	Lb.	5,892	5,865	1,699	1,634
Horse meat	Lb.	1,992	1,289	300	197
Lard	Lb.	37,288	34,505	4,437	4,732
Tallow, edible and inedible	Lb.	59,516	89,183	4,468	4,557
VEGETABLE PRODUCTS:					
Cotton, unmfd., excl. linters (480 lb.)	Bale	110	202	20,887	35,042
Apples, fresh	Lb.	2,416	2,180	208	198
Grapefruit, fresh	Lb.	3,587	4,050	167	186
Oranges and tangerines	Lb.	54,585	67,131	2,231	2,420
Pears, fresh	Lb.	6,583	5,771	512	584
Prunes, dried	Lb.	9,613	3,468	746	564
Raisins and currants	Lb.	11,303	6,297	1,016	670
Fruits, canned	Lb.	17,975	17,836	3,015	2,839
Fruits juices	Gal.	2,184	1,806	1,772	1,862
Barley, grain (48 lb.)	Bu.	5,154	1,819	8,372	2,727
Barley, malt (34 lb.)	Bu.	421	390	1,109	980
Corn, grain (56 lb.)	Bu.	2,776	8,665	5,448	15,327
Grain sorghums (56 lb.)	Bu.	1,166	1,285	1,998	1,983
Rice, milled, excludes paddy	Lb.	51,859	55,071	5,189	5,859
Wheat, grain (60 lb.)	Bu.	23,385	18,945	51,266	38,571
Flour, wholly of U.S. wheat (100 lb.)	Bag	1,167	651	5,271	3,143
Flour, not wholly of U.S. wheat (100 lb.)	Bag	312	126	1,835	742
Hops	Lb.	178	230	115	119
Peanuts, shelled	Lb.	78	64	39	38
Soybeans, except canned (60 lb.)	Bu.	1,503	1,251	4,508	3,563
Soybean oil, crude, refined, etc.	Lb.	24,598	8,302	3,187	988
Soybean flour, edible	Lb.	569	411	37	34
Seeds, field and garden	Lb.	884	3,119	249	449
Tobacco, flue-cured	Lb.	28,111	34,159	17,665	22,539
Tobacco, leaf, other	Lb.	6,313	6,011	3,770	4,346
Beans, dried	Lb.	19,870	28,303	1,584	1,942
Peas, dried	Lb.	4,096	1,947	274	163
Potatoes, white	Lb.	29,073	23,862	1,215	464
Vegetables, canned	Lb.	8,073	9,070	1,223	1,339
Total above				161,282	167,199
Food exported for relief, etc.				521	2,896
Other agricultural products				24,879	31,112
Total agricultural				186,682	201,207
Total all commodities				1,074,340	1,173,361

1/ Product weight.
Compiled from official records, Bureau of the Census.

UNITED STATES: Summary of imports for consumption of selected agricultural products during August 1952 and 1953

Commodity imported	Unit	Quantity 1952	Quantity 1953	Value 1952	Value 1953
SUPPLEMENTARY				1,000	1,000
ANIMALS AND ANIMAL PRODUCTS:		Thousands	Thousands	dollars	dollars
Cattle, dutiable	No.	0	10	0	1,938
Cattle, free (for breeding)	No.	0	2	0	652
Casein and lactarene	Lb.	2,884	6,900	337	891
Cheese	Lb.	3,502	2,824	1,786	1,432
Hides and skins	Lb.	15,747	13,480	4,900	6,155
Beef canned, incl. corned	Lb.	13,416	8,846	4,749	3,149
Wool, unmfd., excludes free in bond	Lb.	28,043	16,178	19,101	13,434
VEGETABLE PRODUCTS:					
Cotton, unmfd., excl. linters (480 lb.)	Bale	8	9	1,489	1,423
Jute and jute butts, unmfd. (2,240 lb.)	Ton	2	3	450	512
Olives in brine	Gal.	1,162	808	1,688	1,246
Pineapples, prep. or preserved	Lb.	12,971	12,733	1,497	1,591
Barley malt	Lb.	6,813	5,365	405	325
Almonds, shelled	Lb.	334	111	150	40
Brazil or cream nuts, not shelled	Lb.	2,701	2,917	480	357
Cashew nuts	Lb.	5,508	4,591	2,531	1,914
Coconut meat, shredded, etc.	Lb.	8,282	13,108	885	1,776
Castor beans	Lb.	7,698	9,774	672	636
Copra	Lb.	59,126	45,677	3,263	3,796
Coconut oil	Lb.	12,237	11,774	976	1,452
Palm oil	Lb.	3,048	2,260	288	215
Tung oil	Lb.	3,062	2,488	1,157	637
Sugar, excl. beet (2,000 lb.)	Ton	396	379	45,279	43,779
Molasses, unfit for human consumption	Gal.	21,627	19,773	2,830	1,870
Tobacco, cigarette leaf	Lb.	7,049	7,036	4,682	4,824
Tobacco, other leaf	Lb.	1,696	1,309	2,550	2,205
Potatoes, white, certified seed	Lb.	0	0	0	0
Potatoes, white (table stock)	Lb.	135	140	6	2
Tomatoes, natural state	Lb.	3,141	3,399	198	193
Other supplementary				54,356	53,111
Total supplementary				156,705	149,555
COMPLEMENTARY					
Silk, raw		574	563	2,337	2,576
Wool, unmfd., free in bond	Lb.	10,637	12,146	4,828	6,051
Bananas	Bunch	3,798	3,687	4,131	4,775
Coffee (ex. into Puerto Rico)	Lb.	191,935	173,902	99,168	92,739
Cocoa or cacao beans	Lb.	20,256	30,406	6,871	9,343
Tea	Lb.	8,094	7,766	3,022	3,507
Spices (complementary)	Lb.	7,082	4,651	5,711	3,617
Sisal and henequen (2,240 lb.)	Ton	17	10	6,676	2,099
Rubber, crude	Lb.	150,391	98,909	40,999	21,683
Other complementary				7,356	6,650
Total complementary				181,099	153,040
TOTAL AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS				337,804	302,595
TOTAL ALL COMMODITIES				816,549	835,606

Compiled from official records, Bureau of the Census.

On a quantitative basis, the outstanding features of the nation's agricultural exports during August, compared with those for the same month a year earlier, were the very large increases in exports of tallow, oranges and tangerines, cotton, corn, rice, beef and veal, and such dairy products as whole dried milk, nonfat dry milk solids and evaporated milk, field and garden seeds, leaf tobacco, hops, dried beans and canned vegetables. Equally outstanding, however, were the large reductions in exports of butter, cheese, dried eggs, lard, prunes, raisins and currants, barley, wheat and wheat flour, soybean oil and flour, dried peas and white potatoes.

With respect to agricultural imports, receipts from abroad during August were valued at $302,595,000, a reduction of 7.6 percent compared with the $327,549,000 worth imported in July and 10.4 percent compared with those for August 1952 which were valued at $337,804,000. As usual, the bulk of these imports consisted of complementary products, such as coffee, rubber, cocoa or cacao beans, carpet wool, spices and tea.

The Nation's total imports of all merchandise, agricultural as well as nonagricultural, were valued at $835,606,000 during August compared with $816,549,000 in the same month last year. Agricultural commodities constituted 36.2 percent of the total during the month under review compared with 41.4 percent during August 1952.

Quantitatively, the August 1953 agricultural imports compared with those for the same month a year ago, show very large reductions for hides and skins, canned and corned beef, dutiable wool, almonds shelled, barley malt, cashew nuts, copra, sugar and molasses, coffee, spices and rubber. On the other hand, very large increases are shown for casein and lactarene, cattle, coconut meat, castor beans, carpet wool, and cocoa or cacao beans.

On balance, the value of the United States imports of agricultural products exceeded that of exports during August 1953 by $101,388,000. In the same month a year ago, agricultural imports exceeded the value of agricultural exports by $151,122,000.--By Leo J. Schaben.

Special Note: Effective with the July 1953 statistics, the value of $100 - $499 export shipments are estimated from a 10 percent smaple of such shipments. The Bureau of the Census of the Department of Commerce explains this innovation in detail in "Foreign Trade Statistics Notes", which is available from the Bureau upon request.

U. S. RICE EXPORTS SLIGHTLY LARGER THAN YEAR AGO

United States rice exports in August 1953 totaled 568,000 bags (100 pounds), a slightly larger amount than the 519,000 bags exported during the first month of the August-July marketing season of a year earlier. Rice continued to be shipped primarily to Cuba, Korea, and Japan, the principal markets in 1952-53.

RICE: United States exports to specified countries, August 1953, with comparisons 1/

Continent and country	August-July 1935-36 to 1939-40	August-July 1940-41 to 1944-45	August-July 1945-46 to 1949-50	August-July 1952-53	August 1952 2/	August 1953 2/
	1,000 bags	1,000 bags	1,000 bags	1,000 bags	1,000 bags	1,000 bags
Western Hemisphere						
Canada	126	347	399	601	13	26
British Honduras	3/	5	13	3	2	0
British West Indies	1	38	97	81	1	1
Cuba	1,507	3,142	4,923	4,858	271	175
Netherlands Antilles	2	5	9	41	3	4
Venezuela	7	22	76	86	11	66
Other countries	122	59	104	15	2	3/
Total	1,765	3,618	5,621	5,685	303	272
Europe						
Belgium & Luxembourg	79	0	73	52	2	5
Greece	89	24	109	3/	3/	0
Netherlands	50	43	3	0	0	0
Iceland	1	8	10	8	0	3/
Sweden	33	46	3/	3/	0	0
Switzerland	10	46	32	39	0	1
United Kingdom	78	380	1	3/	0	0
Other countries	101	289	110	1	3/	0
Total	441	836	338	100	2	6
Asia						
Saudi Arabia	3/	3	80	139	13	5
Ceylon	0	4	0	647	0	0
Indonesia	3/	3/	646	1,100	0	0
Philippines	5	2	1,136	3/	3/	0
China	3/	3/	796	0	0	0
Korea	0	0	98	4/ 4,460	0	159
Hong Kong	3/	3/	36	179	0	0
Japan	3/	1	279	4,420	199	125
Other countries	1	9	24	5/ 620	2	3/
Total	6	19	3,095	11,565	214	289
Oceania	1	10	5	19	0	1
Liberia	3/	38	36	22	3/	0
Other Africa	1	45	1	3/	3/	0
Total World	2,214	4,566	9,096	17,391	519	568

1/ Milled rice, including brown, broken, screenings and brewers' rice and rough rice converted to terms of milled at 65 percent. 2/ Preliminary. 3/ Less than 500 bags. 4/ Based on information relating to military supply programs, 1952-53 allocations, and shipments to R.O.K. 5/ Includes preliminary estimate of 616,000 bags to Ryukyu Islands.

Source: Bureau of the Census

WOOL PRICES STEADY IN PRIMARY MARKETS

World wool prices in the last half of October have been fully maintained at the higher level registered in the opening week of the month. There was a slight easing of prices in the middle of September following the buoyant opening of the season at the end of August.

The September decline was most likely a reaction from the opening as buyers tested the market and the subsequent slight increase attested to the strength of the market at present levels. There appears to be enough spot demand because of the tight stock position in the major consuming countries to maintain prices at current levels for a period but the ultimate direction will be determined by consumer demand for finished wool textile items, which at this time is still undetermined.

Auctions so far thisseason in Australia, South Africa, and in London have been well attended and clearances have been good. South American wools from last season have been practically exhausted and current prices for limited supplies are not too attractive to United States buyers but new clip wools will be offered in quantity shortly. New Zealand auctions opened on October 28 and will be in full force in November. World output of over 2.5 billion pounds of clean wool, a new record, would appear to be adequate to maintain the current rate of consumption and allow for some buildup in trade stocks.

On the average, prices at the close of last season in June of 1953 were about 20-25 percent above the opening in September of 1952. The current season opened in Australia with value about 5 percent above the close of the previous season, declined slightly by mid-September and by mid-October were back to the opening levels. This show of market stability attests to good demand for wool but at the same time it reflects the cautious attitude toward the future.

U. S. EXPORTS OF TOBACCO IN AUGUST 1953

August 1953 exports of United States unmanufactured tobacco were about one-sixth above those of August 1952. Shipments of flue-cured, (particularly to the United Kingdom), Maryland, (especially to Switzerland), Ky.-Tenn. fire-cured and cigar wrapper shared in the increase over August 1952. The declared value of August 1953 shipments of unmanufactured leaf was about $26.9 million -- 25 percent above exports in August of last year ($21.9 million).

Cigarette and cigar exports for August 1953 were considerably below those for the similar month last year. Exports of bulk smoking tobacco were about 50 percent above those in August 1952, while the shipment of packaged smoking tobacco was at about the same level as August of last year.

Exports of United States unmanufactured tobacco,
August 1953, with comparisons

(Export weight)

Kinds	August 1953	August 1952
	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds
Flue-cured	34,159	28,111
Burley	2,114	3,271
Dark-fired Ky.-Tenn.	968	876
Dark-fired Va.	379	643
Sun-cured	4	30
Maryland	1,324	180
Green River	74	24
One-sucker	46	160
Cigar wrapper	309	187
Cigar binder	284	428
Cigar filler	160	140
Other	691	680
Total	40,512	34,730
Declared value, million dollars	26.9	21.5

Exports of United States tobacco products
August 1953, with comparisons

Class of Products	August 1953	August 1952
Cigars & Cheroots (1,000 pieces)	299	464
Cigarettes (1,000 pieces)	1,158,128	1,809,823
Chewing tobacco & snuff (pounds)	124,549	166,998
Smoking tobacco in packages (pounds)	66,687	66,959
Smoking tobacco in bulk (pounds)	461,692	347,107

Compiled by the Foreign Agricultural Service from records of the Bureau of the Census.

August 1953 exports of United States cigarettes were 35 percent below August 1952. The bulk of the decline is due to decreased exports to Tangiers, Belgium, France, the Netherlands Antilles, and the Belgian Congo. Shipments to Hong Kong in August this year were significantly above (32 percent greater) the August 1952 level. United States cigar exports in August 1953 were about 50 percent less than for August 1952. The decrease was chiefly accounted for by smaller shipments to the Canal Zone and Saudi Arabia. These declines were offset to some extent by larger takings by Canada.

The larger exports of bulk smoking tobacco are due primarily to greater takings by Mexico and Spain. These increases were partially offset by decreased shipments to Haiti and the Dominican Republic.

URUGUAYAN FLAXSEED PLANTINGS DOWN SHARPLY

The area planted to flaxseed in Uruguay for the 1953-54 season is preliminarily forecast at about 300,000 acres, according to Dale E. Farringer, Agricultural Attache, American Embassy, Montevideo. This is the smallest flaxseed acreage since 1943-44 and is 48 percent less than 1952-53 plantings of 572,690 acres. The decrease is attributed to the prevailing low market prices for flaxseed and the greater profitability of wheat. In recent months flaxseed prices to growers have hovered around 18.00 pesos per 100 kilograms, delivered to Montevideo, compared with 25.55 pesos, the average annual price in 1952.

Growing conditions for the current crop are favorable so far. Should average yields of slightly under 8 bushels per acre result, the 1953-54 flaxseed crop would total approximately 2,362,000 bushels. This added to the 787,400-bushel carry-over on October 21, 1953, from the 1952-53 crop of 4,274,000 bushels places supplies available at 3,149,400 bushels. If 669,250 bushels are deducted for seed and internal consumption requirements, then 2,480,000 bushels of flaxseed would be available for export during 1954.

It is too early to forecast sunflower and peanut areas as the planting season is just beginning. The third estimate places the 1952-53 sunflower seed crop at almost 102,000 short tons from 411,215 acres against the final figures for 1951-52 of 120,550 tons from 536,490 acres. This is a 15 percent decline in output. The 1952-53 peanut crop is estimated at 4,190 tons from 18,000 acres or an increase of 18 percent from the 1951-52 crop of 3,555 tons from 19,295 planted acres.

In early October the Uruguayan Executive Power authorized the export of 9,000 metric tons (9,920 short tons) of sunflower oil. Shipments will begin next month at around $300, f.o.b. a ton ($272 per short ton) and will be made to the Netherlands, Canada, French Morocco, and Paraguay. Exchange derived from these operations will be earmarked for automobile imports as has been done before. After these shipments are made, only 3,300 short tons of oil will remain as carry-over from the last crop.

U.S. COTTON EXPORTS
IMPROVED IN AUGUST

Exports of cotton from the United States in August totaled 202,000 bales of 500 pounds (193,000 running bales), an increase of 67 percent over the July total and nearly double the 110,000 bales (107,000 running bales) exported in August 1952.

Japan, with 61,000 bales, was the principal destination in August and Korea was second with 26,000 bales. Most of the increase of 60,000 bales (from 35,000 to 95,000) in exports to European countries over those of August 1952 was accounted for by Yugoslavia, France, Italy, the United Kingdom, and Western Germany.

A partial explanation for the August rise in exports may be found in the fact that stocks of cotton, especially United States cotton, in importing countries were generally low in July and supplies of medium and higher grades of Upland-type cotton were available in large quantities only in the United States and to a lesser extent in Mexico.

In Japan, the principal destination for August exports, mill consumption is running about 15 percent above that of a year ago, stocks on July 31 were reported at equivalent to only 3 months' requirements, and tentative import plans for 1953-54 provide for imports of about 1,200,000 bales from "dollar" areas (mostly the United States and Mexico). Exportable supplies in Mexico (Japan's source for 503,000 bales of imports in 1952-53) may be down this year by 250,000 bales or about 25 percent. Further stimulus for exports to Japan was provided by the existence on June 30, 1953, of $35.6 million of unused funds from an Export-Import Bank loan, $16.8 million of which were used during July. Another loan of $60 million to Japan was announced by the Bank on October 26, 1953, which together should cover purchases this season of more than 500,000 bales.

The relatively heavy movement of cotton to Korea in August was due in part to administrative difficulties in Korea and a resulting lag in purchases during several months prior to August. Stocks were almost exhausted by July 31. All Korea's cotton imports are obtained from the United States under economic aid programs. Imports in 1953-54 probably will be sufficient to rebuild stocks as well as to meet annual requirements of 50,000 bales or more.

Exports of cotton to Spain this year may be considerably higher than the 77,000 bales exported last year. About $12 million of loan funds from the Export-Import Bank were still unused on June 30, 1953, and additional dollar resources for cotton purchases will be derived from the military construction program planned under a recent agreement with the United States.

(Table on following page)

UNITED STATES: Exports of cotton by countries of destination; averages 1935-39 and 1945-49; annual 1951 and 1952; August 1952 and 1953

(Equivalent bales of 500 pounds gross)

Country of destination	Year beginning August 1: Averages 1935-39	Year beginning August 1: Averages 1945-49	Year beginning August 1: 1951	Year beginning August 1: 1952	August: 1952	August: 1953
	1,000 bales	1,000 bales	1,000 bales	1,000 bales	1,000 bales	1,000 bales
Austria	0	36	32	47	1/	1
Belgium-Luxembourg	169	131	317	73	3	3
Czechoslovakia	65	57	0	0	0	0
Denmark	33	14	34	34	0	1
Finland	35	21	33	4	0	0
France	662	575	309	507	4	19
Germany	511	340	447	241	8	13
Italy	442	489	560	272	3	10
Netherlands	107	131	197	79	1	5
Norway	17	7	15	11	1	1
Poland and Danzig	180	69	0	0	0	0
Portugal	36	1/	21	1	1/	0
Spain	108	69	203	77	12	12
Sweden	115	12	100	36	1	1
Switzerland	11	26	99	28	1/	2
United Kingdom	1,346	488	662	359	2	9
Yugoslavia	17	47	122	86	0	17
Other Europe	31	2/ 33	6	6	0	1
Total Europe	3,885	2,545	3,157	1,861	35	95
Canada	301	275	296	284	7	9
Chile	9	20	35	1	1/	1/
Colombia	20	24	53	35	9	0
Cuba	11	16	20	12	1/	1/
India	52	86	778	45	5	2
China	117	401	0	0	0	0
French Indochina	22	6	24	18	0	0
Indonesia	1/	5	14	17	0	1
Japan	1,142	585	1,095	691	35	61
Korea, Republic of	3/	4/ 48	55	41	5	26
Taiwan (Formosa)	3/	1	53	107	13	0
Australia	9	7	50	11	0	2
Other countries	21	46	5/ 81	6/ 58	1	6
Total	5,589	4,065	5,711	3,181	110	202

1/ Less than 500 bales. 2/ Includes Greece 21. 3/ If any, included in "Other countries." 4/ Three-year average. 5/ Mostly minor countries in Asia (35) and Africa (25). 6/ Israel 14, Republic of Philippines 16.

Compiled from official records of the Bureau of the Census.

Other unused funds as of June 30, 1953, from previous Export-Import Bank loans for cotton purchases include \$19.4 million for France and \$5.7 million for Austria. When the balances for Japan and Spain are included, a total of \$72.7 million from previous loans remains to be used to purchase cotton for shipment after August 1.

Exports to all destinations in 1953-54 are expected to total slightly more than the 3,181,000 bales (3,048,000 running bales) exported last year. If only the statistics on supplies in foreign countries, average quality and composition of stocks, and anticipated level of consumption abroad were considered, a much higher total for exports might well be expected. However, the uncertainties on the part of foreign customers and competitors regarding pricing policies in the United States could cause a continuation of cotton buying only for immediate needs, with a possible curbing of mill operations to liquidate inventories of goods and a move on the part of foreign exporting countries to liquidate all surplus stocks of cotton before any cotton export program could be put into effect by the United States Government. The actual size of next year's anticipated crop reduction, as indicated after planting is finished early in 1954, will also have a strong influence on cotton pricing and buying policies in foreign countries in the latter part of the current market year.--By Charles H. Barber.